

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5        1. A method for medication delivery comprising the steps of:
  - (a) providing a medication container containing a prescribed medication and a first label containing data on the prescribed medication and instruction of delivering of the medication, the prescribed medication data and the instruction of delivering the medication being provided in machine readable format;
- 10      (b) providing a tag adapted to be worn by a patient, the tag having a second label containing data of the patient, the patient data being provided in machine readable format;
- 15      (c) providing a handheld computing device with:  
means for reading the prescribed medication data and medication delivery instruction from the first label and patient data from the second label;  
means for storing the data and instruction; and  
means for communicating data and instruction to other electronic devices; and
- 20      (d) the handheld computing device reading the prescribed medication data and medication delivery instruction from the first label;  
(e) the handheld computing device reading the patient data from the second label;  
and
- 25      (f) the handheld computing device performing a matching check and confirming the match between the prescribed medication data and the patient data.
- 30      2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of the handheld computing device communicating and downloading the medication delivery instruction to a medication delivery device to deliver the medication to the patient.
- 35      3. The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of the medication delivery device performing periodic checks of the operating parameters of the medication delivery device against the medication delivery instruction downloaded from the handheld computing device to ensure the operating parameters are within the ranges set by the medication delivery instruction after starting the delivery of the medication.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein the first label is encoded with the prescribed medication data and the instruction of delivering the medication derived from a print stream generated from a pharmacy information system.

5. A method for medication delivery comprising the steps of:

5 (a) providing a medication container containing a prescribed medication and a first label containing data on the prescribed medication and instruction of delivering of the medication, the prescribed medication data and the instruction of delivering the medication being provided in machine readable format;

10 (b) providing a tag adapted to be worn by a patient, the tag having a second label containing data of the patient, the patient data being provided in machine readable format;

(c) providing a handheld computing device with:

means for reading the prescribed medication data and medication delivery instruction from the first label and patient data from the second label;

means for storing the data and instruction; and

15 means for communicating data and instruction to other electronic devices; and

(d) the handheld computing device reading the prescribed medication data and medication delivery instruction from the first label;

(e) the handheld computing device reading the patient data from the second label;

(f) the handheld computing device performing a matching check and confirming the 20 match between the prescribed medication data and the patient data; and

(g) the handheld computing device communicating and downloading the medication delivery instruction to a medication delivery device to deliver the medication to the patient.

6. A method for medication delivery comprising the steps of:

(a) identifying medication data contained in a first label on a medication container

25 containing a prescribed medication, the first label containing data on the prescribed medication and instruction of delivering of the medication, the prescribed medication data and the instruction of delivering the medication being provided in machine readable format;

(b) identifying patient data contained in a second label on a tag adapted to be worn by a patient, the second label containing data of the patient, the patient data being provided in machine 30 readable format;

(c) performing a matching check between the medication data and the patient data by a handheld computing device wherein the handheld computing device having:

means for reading the prescribed medication data and medication delivery instruction from the first label and patient data from the second label;

means for storing the data and instruction; and

means for communicating data and instruction to other electronic devices;

5       (d)     the handheld computing device confirming the data and downloading the instruction of delivering the medication to a medication delivery device.